

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for modifying a particle suspension comprising the steps of:

moving a suspension of solid particles in a first fluid stream and in a first direction; and

contacting said first fluid stream with an impacting surface; and

redirecting the fluid to flow in a second fluid stream in a second direction that is substantially opposite to said first direction, ~~wherein the second fluid stream is oriented and positioned with respect to the first stream~~ to cause shearing between the streams and mixing of at least some of the particles in the first and second streams.
2. (Currently Amended) A method for modifying a particle suspension comprising the steps of:

moving a suspension of solid particles from a first entrance point in a first fluid stream; and

moving fluid from a second entrance point in a second fluid stream, and

contacting at least one of said first and second streams with an impacting surface to redirect at least one of said first and second streams such that ~~wherein the~~ said second fluid stream is oriented and positioned ~~with respect to~~ in a direction that is substantially opposite to the direction of the first stream to cause shearing between the streams and mixing of at least some of the particles in the first and second streams.

3. (Currently Amended) A method for modifying a particle suspension comprising the steps of:

moving a suspension of solid particles in a first fluid stream; and

moving a second fluid in a second fluid stream;

contacting at least one of said first and second fluid streams with an impacting surface; and

adjusting the flow path of said first fluid stream or said second fluid stream

whereby the second fluid stream is oriented and positioned ~~with respect~~ in a direction that is substantially opposite to the direction of said the first stream to cause shearing between the streams and mixing of at least some of the particles in the first stream.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the second fluid includes solid particles.

5. (Currently Amended) A method for preparing a particle suspension comprising the steps of:

mixing a solution including a dissolved organic compound with solvent to form a suspension of particles;

moving the suspension into a first fluid stream; and

contacting said suspension with an impacting surface; and

redirecting the suspension to flow in a second fluid stream, ~~wherein the~~ such that said second fluid stream is oriented and positioned ~~with respect~~ in a direction that is substantially opposite to the first stream so as to cause shearing between the streams and mixing of at least some of the particles in the first and second streams.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the step of mixing said compound with said solvent includes using the Venturi effect to combine the solution and the solvent into a single flow path.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for preparing a particle suspension comprising the steps of:

moving a solution including a an organic compound dissolved in a water-miscible organic compound to form a first solution stream; and

moving water in a second solution stream,

contacting at least one of said solution streams with an impingement surface; and

redirecting at least one of said first and second solution streams such that wherein the first solution stream is oriented and positioned ~~with respect~~ in a direction that is substantially opposite to the direction of the second solution stream so as to cause shearing between the streams and mixing of the solution ~~of the solvent~~ streams to produce the particle suspension.

8. (Canceled)

9. (New) The method of Claim 1 comprising contacting said first fluid stream with a semi-spherical impacting surface.

10. (New) The method of Claim 1 comprising contacting said first fluid stream with a substantially flat surface.

11. (New) The method of Claim 1 further comprising cooling said second stream.

12. (New) The method of Claim 11 comprising cooling said second stream by adding water to said second stream.

13. (New) The method of Claim 12 comprising cooling said second stream when said second stream is no longer in contact with said first stream.

14. (New) The method of Claim 11 comprising cooling said second stream by mixing said second stream with a liquid.

15. (New) The method of Claim 2 wherein the fluid moving from said second entrance point comprises a suspension of solid particles.

16. (New) The method of Claim 2 contacting said first and second streams with a first impacting surface.

17. (New) The method of Claim 16 further comprising contacting at least one of said first and second streams with a second impacting surface to redirect at least one of said first and second streams.

18. (New) The method of Claim 5 comprising mixing a solution including a dissolved organic compound with a solvent and a surfactant to form said suspension.

19. (New) The method of Claim 5 further comprising combining a stream of a solution from a separate entrance point, said solution comprising one or more of water and a surfactant.

20. (New) The method Claim 7 wherein said second solution stream includes a surfactant.

21. (New) The method of Claim 7 comprising moving said organic compound and water miscible organic compound solution from a first entrance point and moving said water from a second entrance point.